

AMENDMENT TO THE DRAWINGS

Please replace figure 1a, figure 2, figure 3, figure 4 and figure 5 with substitute formal figure 1a, figure 2, figure 3, figure 4, and figure 5, respectively.

Figure 1a has been amended to add reference signs 4 and 5 described in the specification but inadvertently omitted in the figure. Figure 1a has also been amended to correct errors in the duplicative use of reference signs with respect to information retrieval data manager 20, agent 26 and classification system 24. "Information retrieval data manager 20" is now designated as "information retrieval data manager 23," "agent 26" is now designated as "agent 27" and "classification system 24" is now designated as "classification system 25". Amended figure 1a depicts the distribution means 4 to include: dispatcher 17, data builder 20, history manager 21, interfaces 13, 14, and 15, and client manager 18. Amended figure 1a also depicts the analysis means 5 to include: data manager 22, information retrieval data manager 23, alert module 3, search engine 26, query and alert manager 19, data retrieval management and prioritization 29, classification system 25, time zone unit 412, flow estimation unit 410, and relevancy determination unit 2.

Figure 2 has been amended to remove "user 1" and "real time search module."

Figure 3 has been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 98 (the alert criteria ID) to reference numeral 97 (the "relevant alert criteria ID"). It has also been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 95 (the channel IDs that are in the channel map) to reference numeral 87 (the "channel ID").

Figure 4 has been amended to change "Real Time Search Module" to "Real Time Indexing Module" (reference numeral 257). Figure 4 has also been amended to remove "Real Time Indexing Module" from the bottom left corner.

Figure 5 has been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 295 (the channel IDs in the channel map) to reference numeral 287 (the "channel ID").

REMARKS

Applicants have studied the Office Action, and have amended the Drawings, Specification, and Claims in response thereto. No new matter has been added. It is respectfully submitted that the application, as amended, is in condition for allowance. Claims 1-101 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-7, 9-11, 15-18, 21-23, 25-28, 30-37, 39, 42-44, 46-49, 51-54, 56-60, 68-70, 72-75, 77-78, 81-888, 90-97, and 101 have been amended. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims in view of the foregoing amendment and ensuing remarks are respectfully requested.

With respect to the objections to the drawings, Applicants assume that Examiner issued her objections based on the substitute drawings submitted on May 1, 2002, and the remarks included under the heading "Amendment to the Drawings" were made with respect to those drawings.

The Specification has been amended to add reference signs in instances where a reference to the figure is made in the specification but omitted in the figure, and to correct typographical and/or obvious errors relative to the figures.

Particularly, the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 17 has been amended to change the reference sign "13" to "6" when describing the "retrieval means" and "26" to "27" when describing one of the "agents." The paragraph beginning at page 7, line 15, has been amended to change the reference sign "26" to "27" when describing one of the "agents." The paragraph beginning at page 10, line 27, has been amended to change the reference sign "24" to "25" when describing the "classification module." The third paragraph at page 15 has been amended to change the reference sign "507" to "407" and "508" to "408" when describing the fourth and fifth interfaces, respectively. The third paragraph at page 15 and the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 12 have been amended to change the reference sign "403" to "400" when describing the processor. The paragraph beginning at page 19, line 8, has been amended to correct the reference sign "6" to "3" when referring to the "alert module." The paragraph beginning at page 33, line 9, has been amended to change "Real Time Search modules" to "Real

Time Indexing Module and Real Time Query Indexing Module.” (Support for this particular amendment can be found on specification page 34, lines 25-28, indicating that the “real time indexing module 257 accepts and stores the terms into the Terms Index 256...”) The paragraph beginning at page 34, line 14, has been amended to change the reference sign from “249” to “248” when describing the “term extractor” and “248” to “250” when referring to the “Messages coordinator.” The paragraph beginning at page 41, line 12, has been amended to correct a typographical error when referring to the figures. The Terms index 256 is from “fig. 4” rather than “fig. 2.”

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation that the method is a “computer implemented” method.

Claims 5, 7, 9-11, 15-18, 23, 26, 31, 35, 37, 39, 44, 46, 47, 49, 57, 59, 70, 72, 73, 77, 78, 81, 82, 84-88, 90-97, and 101 have been amended to correct various typographical and grammatical errors.

Claims 1-4, 6, 21-22, 25, 27-28, 30-34, 36, 42-43, 46, 48-49, 51-54, 56, 58, 60, 68-69, 74-75, 77 and 101 have been amended to change “relevancy keyword(s)” to “keyword(s).”

Examiner objected to Figure 1a under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because the figure does not include reference signs 4 and 5 mentioned in the description. Figure 1a has been amended to include reference signs 4 and 5. In light of the amended figure 1a, Applicants respectfully submit that figure 1a compiles with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), and respectfully request Examiner to withdraw this objection.

Examiner also objected to Figure 1b under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because it does not include reference sign “507” mentioned in the description. There were typographical errors concerning the reference signs in the specification. Accordingly, the specification has been amended to correct the reference signs. Thus, “507” is changed to “407,” “508” to “408,” and “403” to “400.” These reference signs correctly correspond to the components of figure 1b. In light of the amended specification and the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully

submit that figure 1b compiles with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), and respectfully request Examiner to withdraw this objection.

Examiner objected to Figures 2-5 under CFR 1.84(h) because of the partial views in these figures.

Figure 2 has been amended to remove "user 1" and "real time search module." Figure 3 has been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 98 (the alert criteria ID) to reference numeral 97 (the "relevant alert criteria ID"). It has also been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 95 (the channel IDs that are in the channel map) to reference numeral 87 (the "channel ID"). Figure 4 has been amended to change "Real Time Search Module" to "Real Time Indexing Module" (reference numeral 257). Support for this amendment can be found on specification page 34, lines 25-28, indicating that the "real time indexing module 257 accepts and stores the terms into the Terms Index 256..." Figure 4 has also been amended to remove "real time indexing module" from the lower left corner. Figure 5 has been amended to depict a link from reference numeral 295 (the channel IDs in the channel map) to reference numeral 287 (the "channel ID"). In light of the amendments to figures 2-5 and the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that amended figures 2-5 complies with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5), and respectfully request Examiner to withdraw this objection.

Examiner rejected claims 1-30 and 99 under 35 U.S.C. §101 because "the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter," because the claims are directed to "an abstract idea," and "the series of method steps may be implemented manually." Examiner suggested including a limitation such as "a computer implemented method." This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicants have adopted Examiner's suggestion and independent Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitation "a computer implemented method." In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1, and claims 2-30 and 99 that depend therefrom, are drawn to patentable subject matter. Applicants therefore respectfully request that Examiner withdraw this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101.

Examiner rejected Claims 1-101 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Examiner stated that the terms “relevancy keyword,” “reception of relevancy keywords,” “current reception patterns,” “reference reception patterns,” and “previous reception patterns” “[did] not appear to be described or defined within the disclosure.” Examiner was unclear how “relevancy keyword” differs from “keyword” and how a “relevancy keyword” is determined or derived. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

For clarity, the term “relevancy keyword” has been changed to “keyword.” Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification; for example pages 6-7. Additionally, the term keyword is sufficiently described and defined in the specification. For example, page 6, line 28 to page 7, line 10 of the specification provides that a keyword is a term which a relevancy determination is made by this inventive method. (See specification, pages 6-7.) In view of this, the phrase “reception of relevancy keywords,” refers to “reception of keywords.” A keyword may be statically or dynamically selected and it may be derived from a client query, a query term, a client alert criterion, or an alert term. (See specification, pages 2, 6 and 7.)

The term “current reception pattern” refers to the reception of information during a period of time; for example, the reception of relevancy keywords during a test period. (See specification, page 3.) The term “reference reception pattern” refers to the pattern of reception for which a comparison by a current reception pattern can be made. Thus, a determination of a relevancy value is responsive to the comparison result. (See specification, page 3.) The term “previous reception pattern” refers to a prior pattern of reception. A previous reception pattern may be used as a reference for comparison to a current reception pattern to determine the relevancy of a keyword. (See specification, page 11-12.)

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1-101 are sufficiently described in the specification. Applicants

therefore respectfully request that Examiner withdraw this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Examiner rejected Claims 1-101 under U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, "as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention." Examiner stated that the terms, "relevancy keyword," "reception of relevancy keywords," "current reception patterns," "reference reception patterns," and "previous reception patterns" are vague and/or unclear. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

For clarity, the term "relevancy keyword" has been changed to "keyword." Support for this amendment may be found throughout the specification; for example pages 6-7. Additionally, a keyword is a term which a relevancy determination is made by this inventive method. (See specification, pages 6-7.) Accordingly, the phrase "reception of relevancy keywords," refers to "reception of keywords." A keyword may be statically or dynamically selected and it may be derived from a client query, a query term, a client alert criterion, or an alert term. (See specification, pages 2, 6 and 7.)


The term "current reception pattern" refers to the reception of information during a period of time; for example, the reception of relevancy keywords during a test period. (See specification, page 3.) The term "reference reception pattern" refers to the pattern of reception for which a comparison by a current reception pattern can be made. Thus, a determination of a relevancy value is responsive to the comparison result. (See specification, page 3.) The term "previous reception pattern" refers to a prior pattern of reception. A previous reception pattern may be used as a reference for comparison to a current reception pattern to determine the relevancy of a keyword. (See specification, page 11-12.)

In light of the foregoing remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claims 1-101 are sufficiently definite. Applicants therefore respectfully request that Examiner withdraw this rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

All of the claims remaining in the application are now believed to be allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

If questions remain regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (213) 633-6800.

Respectfully submitted,
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By 
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Enclosure:

Replacement Sheets for the Drawings
Annotated Drawing Sheets illustrating changes made
Postcard
Petition for Extension of Time

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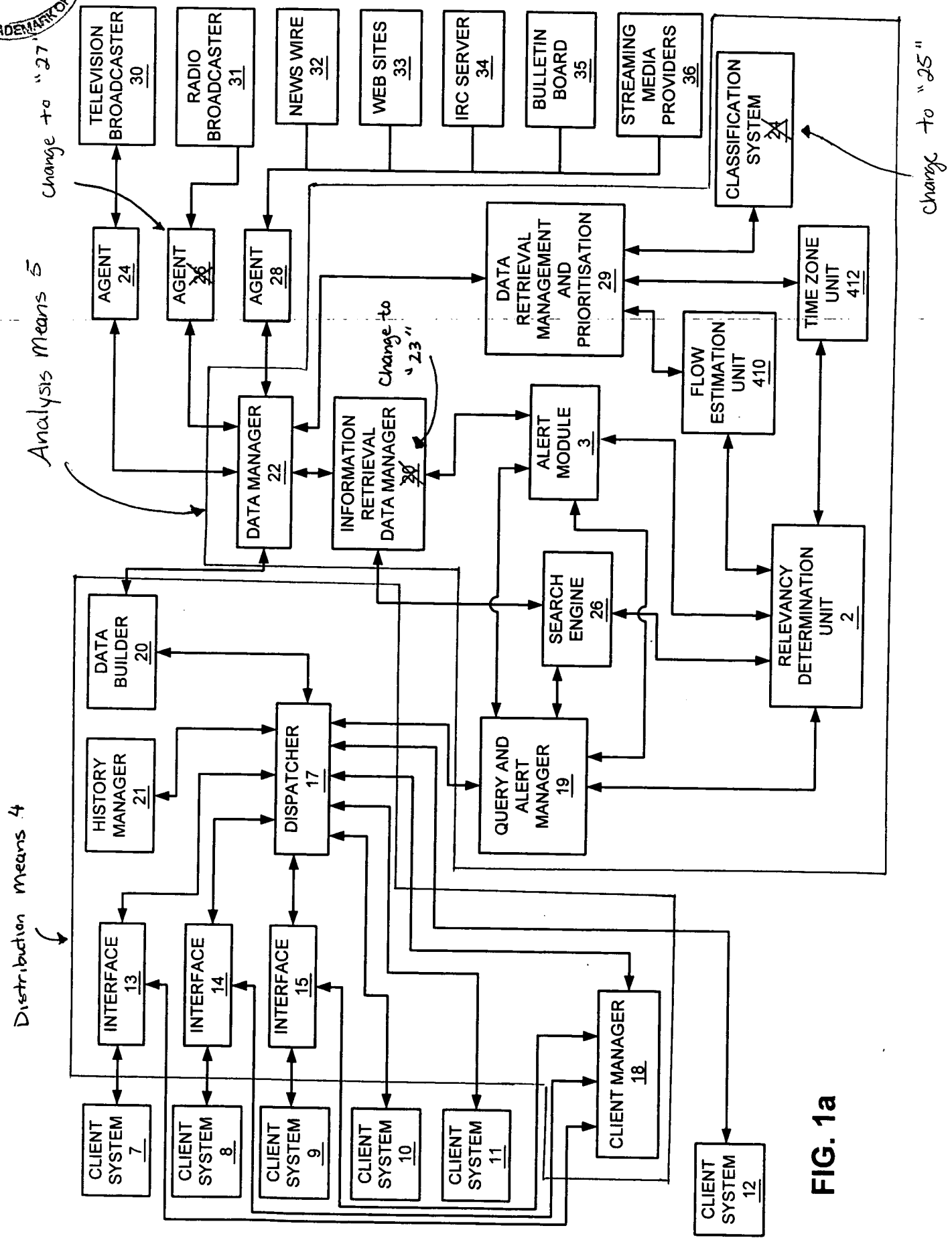
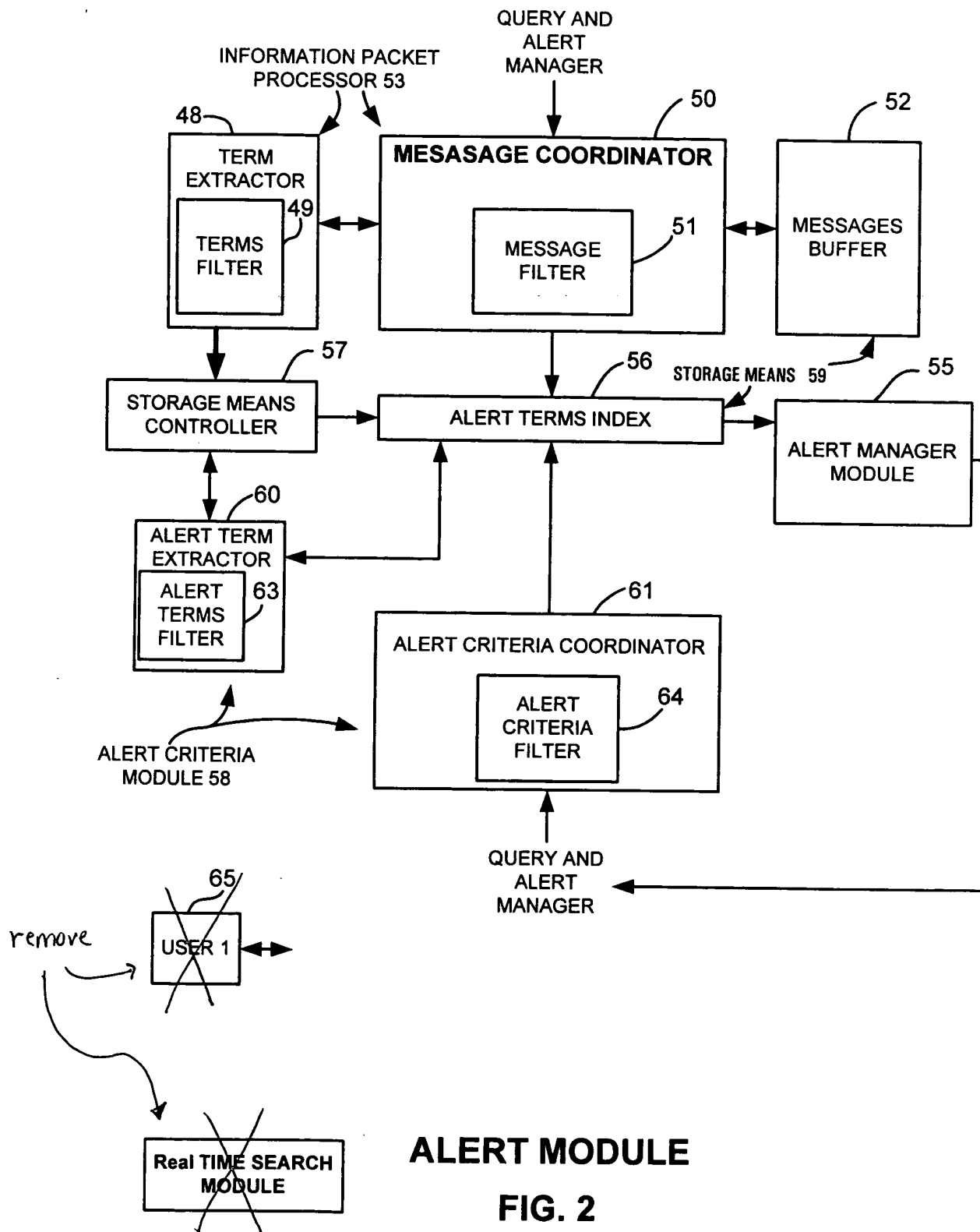
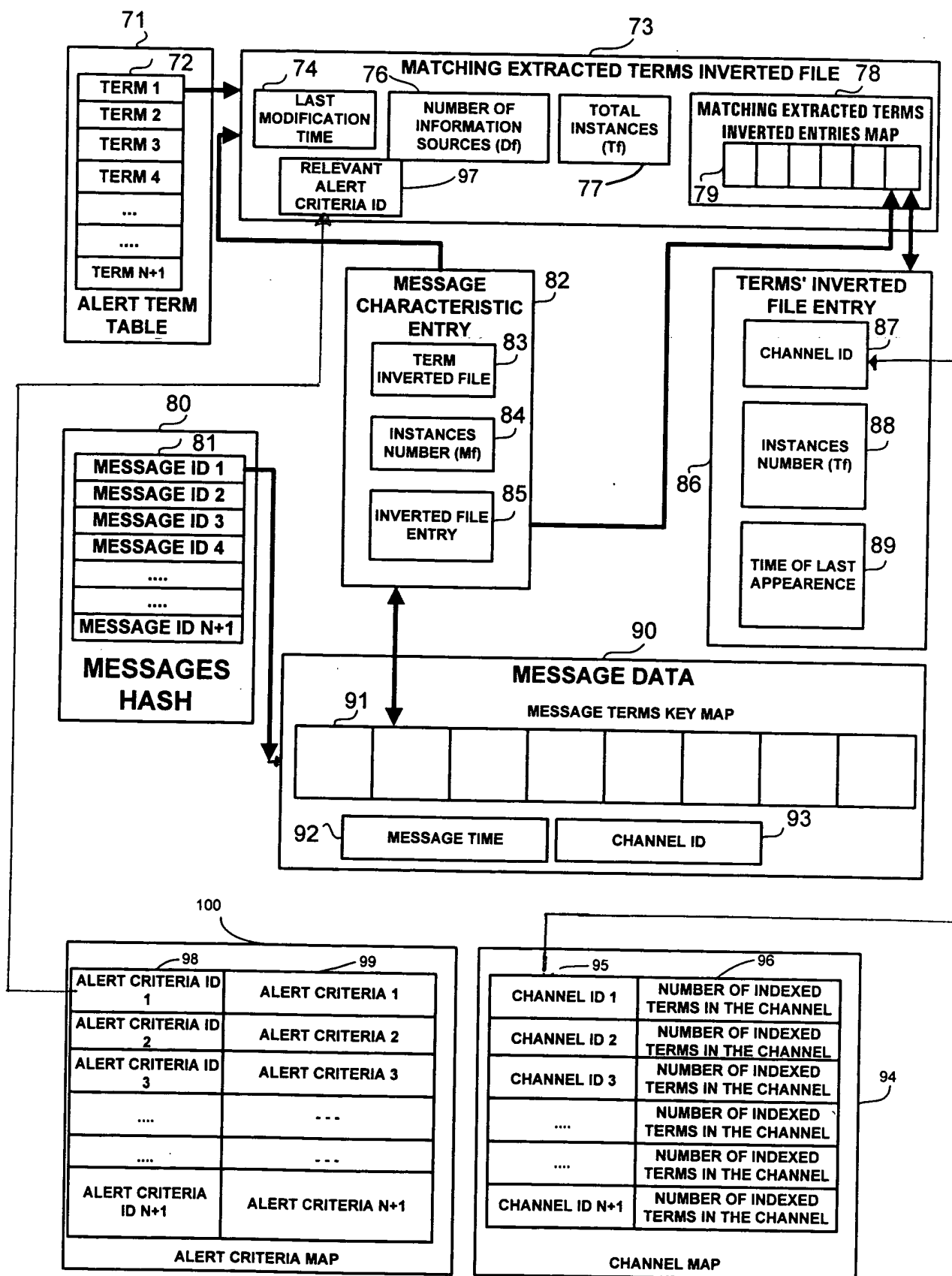


FIG. 1a





THE ALERT INDEX

FIG. 3

FIG. 5

